

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. In a microscope stand of a type having an electrically powered element and a power inlet connected to said element, the improvement comprising:

5 an auxiliary power outlet connected to said power inlet for receiving a power cord of an electrically powered auxiliary device associated with said microscope stand.

10 2. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein said power inlet of said microscope stand and said auxiliary power outlet are formed according to a common standard chosen from a plurality standards in use throughout the world.

15 3. The improvement according to claim 1, further comprising a cover installed to prevent access to said auxiliary power outlet, wherein said cover is adapted to be removable by a service technician but not by an end user.

4. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein said electrically powered element is an illumination source.

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